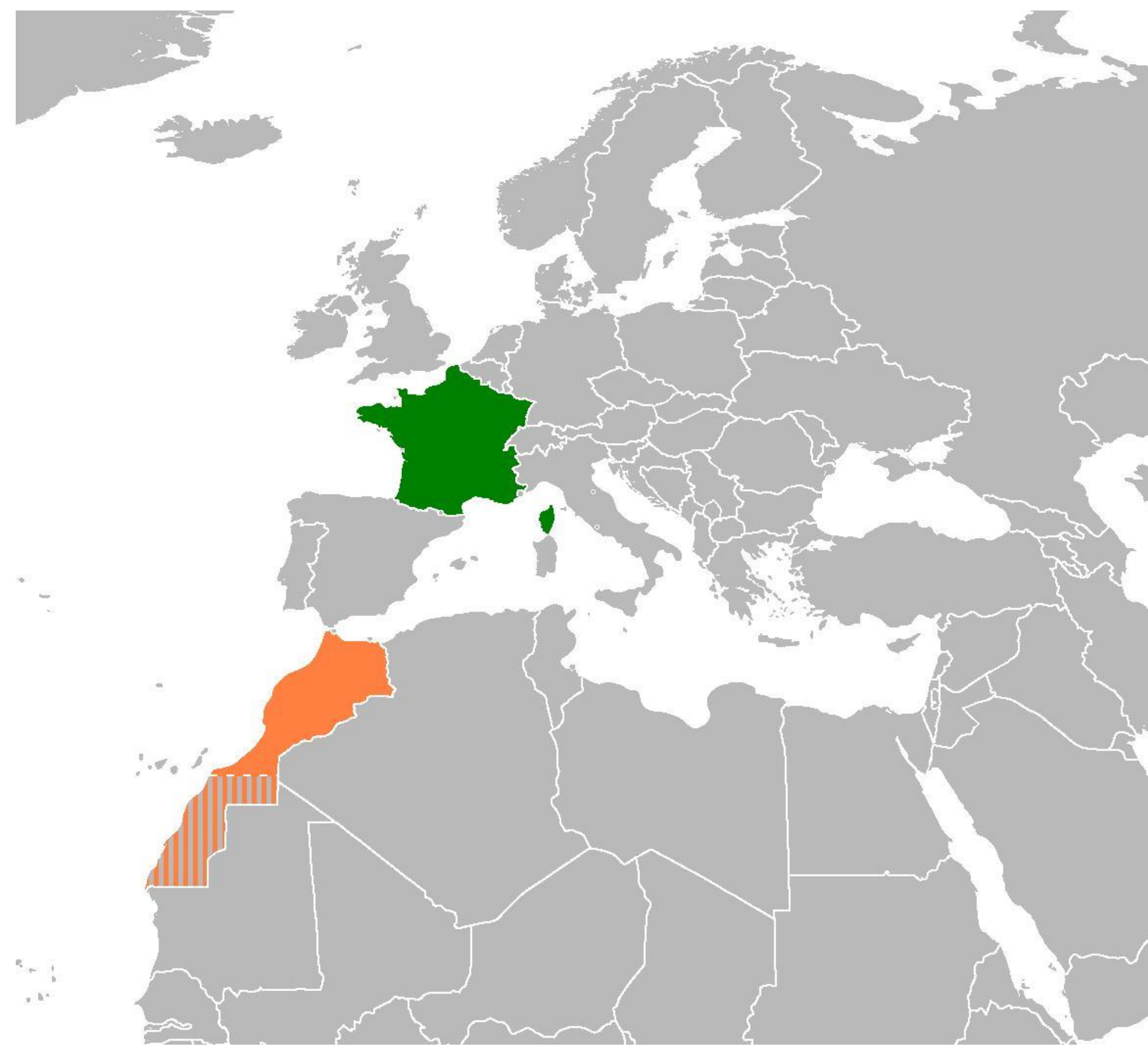


Between France and Morocco: Diversity in the Francophone World



MOTIVATION

- I had never been to France nor Morocco, and they were both countries I had always wanted to visit.
- The course's themes and overall structure tied in perfectly with both my majors and minor, despite it being a history credit. I felt that this was the most applicable study abroad program to my studies that I was also the most interested in.
- Experience a Francophone country and culture outside of France.
- I was able to practice French the whole month abroad, even though it was for a language credit!



DESCRIPTION

My STEP funds went towards a study abroad May session called Between France and Morocco: Diversity in the Francophone World. The first two weeks were spent in France—one in Paris, and the other in a southern town called Aix-en-Provence, where we were placed in homestays. The third week we spent traveling to various cities in Morocco, starting with Marrakech, then to Rabat, Fes, and ending with Casablanca. Our month between these two countries we spent time visiting museums, historical sites, and visiting diverse immigrant neighborhoods to analyze how these two countries have approached issues of identity, inclusivity, religion, and diversity in both the past and today.



Ana Mitchell

STEP Mentor: Dr. Darcy Granello

Majors: Anthropology and Comparative Cultural Studies

Minor: French

TRANSFORMATION

- **Learning that there is always more than what meets the eye.** It's important to note what narratives are told—and be especially vigilant to the stories that aren't told, and who is telling them.
- **Seeking a non-dominant narrative.** We got to experience France and Morocco outside of the typical tourist spots and visited immigrant neighborhoods and other equally important sites.
- **Solidifying my interest in my studies.** This program enforced my interest in continuing with French, despite the difficulties, and to also continue my studies in anthropology, or a related field, into graduate school in the near future.
- **Writing a thesis.** I am currently in the works of researching and writing a thesis that was founded in what I saw abroad and what I wrote about in my final paper for the course.

